

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07481 261929Z

61

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 JUSE-00

FTC-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /064 W

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R 261701Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2115

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 7481

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: ANTI-TRUST INVESTIGATION OF CERTAIN FOREIGN AIRLINES

REF: STATE 191611

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH HENRI PERDIEUS, ASSOCIATED DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ON SEPTEMBER 20, SUBJECT OF ANTI-TRUST INVESTIGATION CAME UP. PERDIEUS REMARKED THAT BELGIAN REPLY TO "SEVEN POINT PROPOSAL" SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL WOULD BE FORTHCOMING BY FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER AND WOULD BE DELIVERED THROUGH BELGIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE INFORMED US THAT BELGIANS WOULD REPLY NEGATIVELY TO PROPOSAL AND WOULD NOT PERMIT SABENA EMPLOYEES TO APPEAR, EVEN INFORMALLY, NOR WOULD SABENA SUBMIT DOCUMENTS TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. PERDIEUS EMPHASIZED THAT BELGIANS WERE EXTREMELY UNHAPPY WITH THE WAY THIS INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN HANDLED, BEGINNING WITH ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS TO FOREIGN AIRLINE OFFICIALS DURING IATA MEETING AT FORT LAUDERDALE. HE IMPLIED THAT BELGIANS MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE COOPERATIVE IF THEY HAD BEEN APPROACHED MORE

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07481 261929Z

TACTFULLY. ON OTHER HAND, HE EXPRESSED DOUBT, AS A

MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, THAT SABENA COULD PROVIDE EVIDENCE
IMPLICATING OTHER AIRLINE COMPANIES. PERDIEUS ADDED
THAT THE FOUR NON-AMERICAN AIRLINES INVOLVED HAVE BEEN
CONSULTING AMONG THEMSELVES AS TO HOW THEY SHOULD
RESPOND TO "SEVEN POINT PROPOSAL", AND THAT AT LEAST
TWO IN ADDITION TO SABENA HAVE DECIDED TO RESPOND
NEGATIVELY. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

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